

Amendments to the Abstract

Replace the abstract originally filed in the application with the following amended abstract:

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(~~A scheme by which a computer may communicate with a variety of different systems (e.g., e-mail, voice mail, cellular telephone, pager, facsimile device, computer, motor, and home appliance) notwithstanding the communications protocol employed by different systems is described. In particular, the invention features a~~ A universal communication module that establishes an open, transport independent communications protocol that may be created and invoked to facilitate communications between any two devices interconnected over a global communication network that includes wireline (e.g., dial-up, dedicated line and local and wide area networks) and wireless (e.g., radio frequency and cellular) networks. In one embodiment, a system for providing remote electronic services to a network node includes an origination agent, a communication module, and an access file a service module. The origination agent resides at the origination network node. The origination agent is configured to receives request for-service-calls in any format selected from a voice format, an internet format, an e-mail format, and a wireless format, and transmits a request-for-service call to the access file in accordance with a hypertext transfer protocol for each of the received request-for-service calls. transmit a request for-service call incorporating one or more control parameters, including a destination node address. The communication module encapsulates processes for communicating with the destination network node over multiple transport facilities. The access file invokes at least one service module in response to a given request-for-service call received from the agent resides on a server computer remote from the origination network node. The at least one service module performs is configured to perform a prescribed function to produce a service deliverable requested in accordance with the given request-for-service call, accesses and to access an instance of the communication module, and passes [[pass]] the one or more control parameters and the service deliverable to the communication module for delivery to the destination network node. The communication module transmits the service deliverable received from the at least one service module to the destination network node specified in the given request-for-service call in any format selected from a voice format, an internet format, an e-mail format, and a wireless format.